

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 19, 2004. In order to advance prosecution of the present Application, Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-10, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24-27, 32, 34, 35, 37, 39-41, 45, and 48 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this Application.

Claims 1-48 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-38 of copending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/086,761. Attached herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer with check to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-5, 9-12, 15-21, 25, 26, 28, 30-36, 40-43, and 46-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Biffar. Independent Claims 1, 17, 32, and 48 recite in general, in response to a configuration choice selection at the GUI element during the configuration workflow, receive data from the server system representing an update to the current state of the configuration with respect to the property of the configuration element and use the connector linking the property of the configuration element to the GUI element to cause other GUI elements to be automatically updated to reflect the updated state of the configuration with respect to the property of the configuration element in order to associate available configuration choices for the other GUI elements according to the configuration choice selection. By contrast, the Biffar patent allows all choices to be made available at each selection opportunity whether or not a choice at a second selection instance would conflict with a selection made at a first selection instance. It is only after the user has made all selections that the system informs the user that certain

choices are not possible based on the selections made. See col. 11, line 23, to col. 12, line 16, of the Biffar patent. Thus, the Biffar patent is not capable of automatically updating GUI elements in order to provide available configuration choices in response to a configuration choice selection as required in the claimed invention. Support for the above recitation can be found at page 11, line 19, to page 12, line 27, of Applicant's specification. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-5, 9-12, 15-21, 25, 26, 28, 30-36, 40-43, and 46-48 are not anticipated by the Biffar patent.

Claims 6, 7, 13, 22, 23, 29, 37, 38, and 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Biffar in view of Ahluwalia. Independent Claim 1, from which Claims 6, 7, and 13 depend; Independent Claim 17, from which Claims 22, 23, and 29 depend; and Independent Claim 32, from which Claims 37, 38, and 44 depend, have been shown above to be patentably distinct from the Biffar patent. Moreover, the Ahluwalia patent does not include any additional material combinable with the Biffar patent that would be material to patentability of these claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 6, 7, 13, 22, 23, 29, 37, 38, and 44 are patentably distinct from the proposed Biffar - Ahluwalia combination.

Claims 14, 27, and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Biffar. Independent Claim 1, from which Claim 14 depends; Independent Claim 17, from which Claim 27 depends; and Independent Claim 32, from which Claim 45 depends, have been shown above to be patentably distinct from the Biffar patent. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 14, 27, and 45 are patentably distinct from the Biffar patent.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place the Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any amount required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant



Christopher W. Kennerly
Reg. No. 40,675

February 18, 2005

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 600
Dallas, TX 75201-2980
(214) 953-6812
Customer Number: 05073